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KEPT EYE ON ARTISTS

'Spied' for Reds, She Says

By the Associated Press

An American teacher has told the Justice Department that she furnished information to Soviet agents on Russian artists touring the United States and on Americans who might try to get them to defect.

Files made available yesterday by the Justice Department identified her as Natalie Anna Bienstock, 28, now a graduate student and Russian language teacher at Cornell University at Ithaca, N.Y.

A Justice official said no action was contemplated against Miss Bienstock because she voluntarily went to the FBI and told about her relatively brief career in international intelligence activities.

It began in Moscow in March 1962, and ended, according to her sworn statement, in February 1963.

Trained in Moscow

The Justice files include several completed and sworn forms Miss Bienstock filled out on Oct. 14 this year, setting forth her connection with the Soviet espionage network.

In these documents, she said she visited Moscow at the end

of 1959 and again in February and March of 1962 while employed by Hurok Attractions, Inc., which was then arranging for the visits of Russian artists to the United States under the U.S.-Russian cultural exchange agreements.

Miss Bienstock said she received all of her instructions and training at the Hotel Ukraine in Moscow on March 9, 1962, during a meeting with Viktor Petrovich Sorine. She described him as "a representative of the Committee for State Security of the U.S.S.R."

She said Sorine showed her how to produce invisible writing—which could later be made visible—by using a silver nitrate solution.

Miss Bienstock said she was instructed to report to a Leo Sorokine by this secret writing method to an address in New York City, and that she sent him about seven secret letters but never talked to him or met him.

Named FBI Agent

During this period, Miss Bienstock was traveling with or concerned with several touring Russian groups, including the Kirov Ballet.

In addition to giving Russian agent Sorokine the names of Hurok staff members, she disclosed that she had secretly written him the names of at least two FBI agents. She identified another man as a Central Intelligence Agency employee.

She wrote that this was in line with the instructions she had received originally in Moscow to report the names of "any and all" Americans who came in contact with Soviet entertainers, and particularly to identify anyone connected with a U.S. agency.

Her instructions, she said,

also required her to provide information about any of the touring Russians whom she might suspect of being disloyal or potentially disloyal to the U.S.S.R.

Miss Bienstock said she received no compensation from the Russians.

And since she wrote a secret letter to Sorokine in February 1963, severing her connection with his enterprise, she has had no contact with any Russians, she added.